UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

UNDP

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DP/PROJECTS/2705
(KEN/78/016)
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APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF KENYA

Sorghum and Millet Development (Phase II)
(KEN/78/016)

Report of the Administrator*

Date of present approval	April 1979
Starting date of project activities:	January 1977 (Including previous assistance)
Planned completion date:	1981
To be executed by:	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Government implementing agency:	Ministry of Agriculture
Estimated cost of assistance planned under present approval:	$1 086 200
Source of UNDP financing:	Indicative Planning Figure (IPF)

I. Background

1. The Government of Kenya through the Ministry of Agriculture has, in recent years, begun to give increased attention to the problems of marginal areas for arable agriculture. Within this framework, FAO/UNDP assistance has been sought in order to undertake a project in Dryland Farming Research and Development (KEN/74/017) and another one in Sorghum and Millet Development (KEN/76/020)1/. The latter project, the activities of which were initiated as an integral component of the Beef Industry Development project (KEN/72/008)2/, embodied the first attempt to capitalize upon the drought-resistant nature of sorghum and millet which makes these crops potentially well-suited for marginal lands. The project, though small, has been successful and contributed to the increasing awareness in Kenya of the great future which these drought-resistant crops may come to have in the country's agricultural expansion programme.

2. In July 1978, an FAO mission reviewed the project and recommended a shift of emphasis away from sorghum and millet for animal feed, to human consumption. The present Phase II project, which takes this recommendation into account, will also put emphasis on low-potential dryland areas, and the further expansion of the smallholder system, and training of more counterpart personnel.

1/ DP/PROJECTS/1708.

2/ DP/L.257 (Vol.II), p. 19.

* In accordance with General Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV) and subsequent authorizations of the Governing Council, reports are issued seriatim on the approval of UNDP assistance of $250,000 or more (including, if any, assistance financed by Government or third-party cost sharing).

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II. Objectives and activities

3. The immediate objectives of the project are to assist the Ministry of Agriculture with respect to: (a) development and identification of high-yielding cultivars and hybrid sorghums adapted to marginal-rainfall areas and higher rainfall- but impeded-drainage areas; (b) co-operation with existing Kenyan research and development capabilities in identifying suitable methods for processing sorghum and millets for human consumption; (c) continuation of established co-operative links of the first phase project (KEN/76/020) with the relevant national, regional, foreign and international research and development institutes such as the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT); and (d) close co-operation with the project Dryland Farming Research and Development (KEN/74/017) for the medium potential bi-modal rainfall areas east of the Rift Valley.

III. Inputs

4. UNDP will provide, through the Executing Agency, for 119 man-months of expert services in the fields of agronomy and plant breeding, and consultant services; 257 man-months of fellowships; expendable and non-expendable equipment and miscellaneous project expenses. The Government, on the other hand, will provide the necessary counterpart staff, land, buildings, supplies and equipment.

IV. Financial data

5. The expenditure components of the planned assistance are as follows:

	m/m	$
Personnel	119	700 800
Subcontracts		20 000
Training		194 700
Equipment		111 000
Miscellaneous		59 700
		1 086 200

6. The estimated total value, expressed in US dollars, of inputs provided directly by the Government to the project is $72,700 in kind.

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